



## Snow Queen Oakleaf Hydrangea

### *Hydrangea quercifolia* ‘Snow Queen’

The Oakleaf hydrangea is one of the few hydrangeas native to the United States; however, it is not native to Arkansas.

**Height:** 4-6'(8') **Spread:** 4-6' **Habit/Form:** Upright mounded  
**Growth Rate:** Slow to medium **Zone:** 5-9

**Cultural Requirements:** Best in moist, well-drained, slightly acidic, organic rich soil. Mulch is recommended for keeping roots cool and moist; prefers sun to part shade. Flower buds can be damaged in extremely cold winters. Flowers on old wood and should be pruned after flowering; remove winter-damaged stems as soon as leaves begin to emerge in spring. This hydrangea is a disease and insect free shrub.

**Ornamental Characteristics:** This very handsome hydrangea is a shrub for all seasons. The deep green, sometimes glossy, oakleaf-shaped leaves are 3-8 inches long and turn a deep burgundy in the fall that can persist into December. Large, 4-12-inch, cone-shaped panicles open white then eventually turn a purplish-pink. Older bark is a cinnamon-brown color and tends to peel off in strips. This is the only hydrangea with exfoliating bark.

**Uses in the Landscape:** Excellent for mass plantings, groupings, or even as a specimen.

## Autumn Jazz

### Arrowwood Viburnum

#### *Viburnum dentatum* ‘Ralph Senior’

Arkansas Native

**Height:** 8-10' **Spread:** 6-8' **Habit/Form:** Compact, vase-shaped  
**Growth Rate:** Medium **Zone:** 3-8

**Cultural Requirements:** Sun or shade; adaptable to various soils but prefers moist, well drained conditions. Shallow, fibrous root system benefits from a light layer of mulch.

**Ornamental Characteristics:** Glossy dark green leaves turn a combination of yellow-orange-red-burgundy in the fall. White flat-topped flowers appear in May and June. The ink blue fruits mature in September and October and are favored by the birds.



**Uses in the Landscape:** Use in mass, as a naturalized hedge, for screening, or in the shrub border.

# SHRUB PLANTING GUIDELINES

**1) Plan ahead.** Choose a quality grown species of shrub that fits your yard. Look for utilities above and below ground. To reduce summer air conditioning costs plant large deciduous shrubs on the east, south or west sides of your home or to shade the A/C unit.

**2) Before digging call Arkansas One Call**



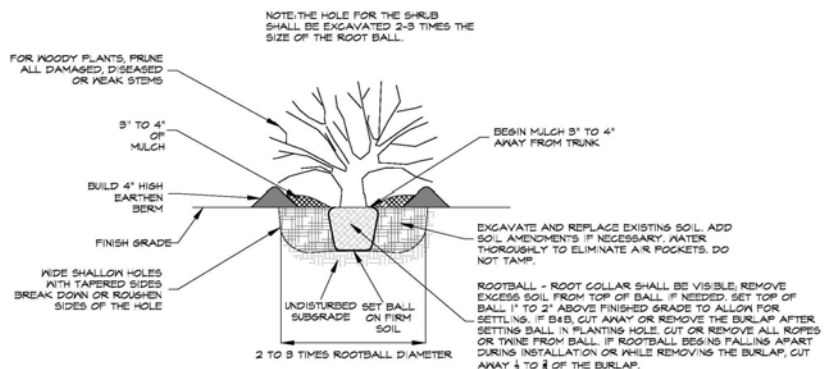
**1 (800) 482-8998 or simply 811**

**3) Gather your tools:** gloves, rounded shovel, pick axe for rocky sites, water hose or bucket, heavy duty scissors to cut containers if needed, or to cut burlap.

**4) Gather your supplies:** B12 root simulator or mycorrhizal fungi (not needed but can be beneficial) and organic mulch (due to cypress tree devastation, cypress mulch is not recommended).

**5) Dig the planting hole no deeper than the height of the root ball and 2 to 3 times wider than the root ball. You should have a shallow, wide planting hole. Very Important – the shrub should never be planted deeper than the depth of the root ball. This is the worst mistake made in planting shrubs. It is best if the shrub is actually planted high by 1 to 1 ½ inches. This insures that after the soil settles the shrub will still be planted at the proper depth.**

**6) For containerized plants, remove the shrub from the container; be gentle on the trunk. If it won't come out, push in the sides of the container – a little bit. This may free the soil up enough to slip the root ball out. If that doesn't work, cut the container. If the plant is ball & burlap, set shrub in hole, cut and remove all twine or other wrapping and top 2/3 of burlap.**



**7) Backfill the planting hole with the soil you removed when digging the hole. Do not add any other soil amendments or special soil mixes. They are not needed and in fact can cause future rooting problems.**

**8) When the hole is half full of soil, water to help remove air pockets, then continue to fill the hole until it is full and water again.**

**9) Use the left over soil to build a berm around the outer edge of the planting hole. This will direct water flow to the root ball where it is needed.**

**10) Top dress the root ball and berm with organic mulch 4 inches deep. Do not let the mulch contact the shrub stem. Taper it away from the stem.**

**11) Maintain the newly planted shrub on a regular watering schedule for the next year. New shrubs should receive more water during the growing season (Spring through early Fall). Soil should remain moist, but not wet. Under and/or over watering is the worst mistake made in establishing shrubs.**

**12) Enjoy your shrub.**

The Urban Forestry Advisory Board selected native trees and shrubs to give away this year because they should be easy to grow and maintain, will reflect our town's unique setting as a city on the edge of the Ozarks and because many pollinators, birds and other wildlife depend only on the native plants they evolved with for food and habitat. We encourage residents to Google "Why Native Plants" to learn more. We also encourage residents to eliminate invasive plants like privet, bush honeysuckle and English ivy because they crowd out native plants and inhibit the seasonal transition of native plants that our wildlife depend on.